GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:354
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2007
EXODUS OF SCIENTISTS FROM DRDO
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of scientists have left their jobs in the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) during the last few years;

(b) if so, the number thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which this brain drain has affected the projects of DRDO;

(d) whether the Government has made any proposals to offer incentives to scientists to arrest the exodus;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to attract more talented scientists to DRDO?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 354 FOR ANSWER ON 26.4.2007

During the last five years (2002-2006) 1007 scientists have left their jobs from DRDO due to increased opportunities available in private sectors. The rate of attrition is marginally higher compared to private sector industries.

There has been no substantial impact of such attrition on completion of DRDO projects. The deficiencies are made up through regular recruitments.

A comprehensive proposal of incentives to arrest exodus of scientists has already been submitted by DRDO and is under active consideration by the Government. Comprehensive proposal has also been submitted to the Sixth Central Pay Commission.

DRDO has adopted a dynamic approach for recruitment of talented people with desired competency. DRDO conducts campus interviews in reputed institutions, like Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Technologies (NITs) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore. DRDO also recruits scientists through Scientists Entry Tests (SET) and fresh Ph.D scholars under Registration of Students with Scholastic Aptitude (ROSSA). Image building exercise has been strengthened to attract young talents.